

***Remarks***

Claims 1-6 and 11 are amended herein to correct antecedent basis and typographical and grammatical errors. These amendments do not raise any new issues for consideration and do not change the scope of the claims. Accordingly, Applicants' representative respectfully requests entry of these amendments.

***Outstanding Consideration of Documents Identified by Applicants***

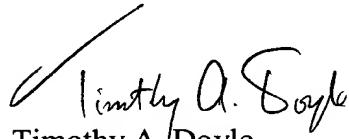
Applicants' representatives have not yet received indication of consideration by the Examiner of U.S. Patent No. 6,035,285 to Schlect *et al.*, which was identified in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on June 13, 2001. A new copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted with this IDS is included herein for convenience.

Furthermore, some of the documents identified by Applicants in parent U.S. Application No. 09/097,714 were not listed on the Form PTO-892 included with the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due. Specifically, Applicants' representatives have not yet received indication of consideration by the Examiner of the English language abstracts for ten Japanese patent publications, which were identified in an IDS filed on May 10, 2002, in parent U.S. Application No. 09/097,714. New copies of the Forms PTO-1449 submitted in this IDS are included herein for convenience.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should there be any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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